

D³

with the aid of a membrane pump (1) and a flow meter (2), to a humidifier composed of a column of glass beads (3) and a plunger (4) which introduces liquid water into the system at a flow rate of 0.4 ml/h, such that the stream of dried F32 is again humidified to the abovementioned value of 4100 ppm of water. After this humidification and passage into a homogenization tank (5), the stream returns to the drier (6).

Please amend the paragraph starting line 23, page 15 to be read as follows:

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A stream of helium is then circulated, for 2 hours at room temperature, in the drying tube (6), the aim of this operation being to remove the F32 remaining between the granules of the molecular sieve feed stock. An auxiliary dryer (16) may be connected as shown in Figure 1.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 6, 8-10, 15, and 18-20 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17 and 22 to be read as follows:

D⁵

1. (Four Times Amended) A process for drying wet F32, which comprises placing a stream of the said F32 in continuous contact with a feed stock of a composition comprising a molecular sieve selected from a 3A, 4A or 5A type sieve, at a first temperature of between 5 and 78°C, and at a first pressure of between 0.6 and 25 atm,

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wherein the sieve feed stock is regenerated by the process which consists in passing a stream of an inert gas over the feed stock, at a second pressure at about atmospheric pressure:

- (i) at a second temperature between 70°C and 170°C, for the time required to remove at least 80%, of the initial amount of F32 absorbed in the feed stock, and then
- (ii) at a third temperature between 180°C and 300°C, for the time required to remove at least 90%, of the initial amount of water absorbed in the feed stock.

D5
Cont.
2. (Thrice Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the stream of F32 to be dried is a stream of gas, and the first pressure is between 0.6 and 10 atm.

D6
11. (Twice Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the first temperature is room temperature.

D6
12. (Twice Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the first pressure is between 0.8 and 17 atm.

D7
13. (Twice Amended) The process according to claim 2, wherein the first pressure is between 0.8 and 5 atm.

D7
16. (Thrice Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the second temperature is between 80°C and 165°C and at least 90% of the initial amount of F32 absorbed in the feed stock is removed.

D8
17. (Thrice Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the third temperature is between 190°C and 250°C and at least 95% of the initial amount of F32 absorbed in the feed stock is removed.

D8
22. (Once Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the inert gas is helium.